Application No.: 10/508,403 Docket No.: SONYJP 3.3-1005

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A composition comprising:

one or a plurality of species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame retardant additive, and a hydrolysis inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability

wherein the flame retardant additive is at least one compound selected from a hydroxide compound, a phosphorus compound, and a silica compound.

2. (original) The composition according to Claim 1, characterized in that:

the organic polymer compound having biodegradability is either a polysaccharide, an aliphatic polyester, a polyamino acid, polyvinyl alcohol, a polyalkalene glycol, or a copolymer comprising at least one of the compounds.

3. (previously presented) The composition according to Claim 2, characterized in that:

the aliphatic polyester is either polylactic acid, polycaprolactone, polyhydroxybutyric acid, polyhydroxyvaleric acid, polyethylene succinate, polybutylene succinate, polybutylene adipate, polymalic acid, a microbiologically synthesized polyester, or a copolymer comprising at least one of the compounds.

4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) The composition according to Claim 41, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is the hydroxide compound having a purity of 99.5% or more.

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(currently amended) The composition according to Claim 6. 41, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate hydroxide compound having a BET specific surface area of 5.0 m2/g or less.

(currently amended) The composition according to Claim 7. 41, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate hydroxide compound having an average particle size of 100 µm or less.

(currently amended) The composition according to Claim 41, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is the silica compound having a silicon dioxide content of 50% or more.

(currently amended) The composition according to Claim 9. 41, characterized in that:

the flame retardant additive is a particulate silica compound having an average particle size of 50 µm or less.

(original) The composition according to Claim 1, 10. characterized in that:

the hydrolysis inhibitor is at least one species of compound selected from a carbodiimide compound, an isocyanate compound, and an oxazoline compound.

11. (currently amended) A method for producing a composition characterized by mixing one or more species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame additive, and a hydrolysis inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability

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wherein the flame retardant additive is at least one compound selected from a hydroxide compound, a phosphorus compound, and a silica compound.

- 12. (previously presented) A shaped article comprised of a composition of one or a plurality of species of an organic polymer compound having biodegradability, a flame retardant additive, and a hydrolysis inhibitor for the organic polymer compound having biodegradability.
- 13. (original) The shaped article according to Claim 12, characterized in that:

the shaped article is a housing for electrical appliance.

14. (canceled)

- 15. (new) The composition according to claim 1, characterized in that: an amount of the hydroxide compound is 10 to 40% by weight.
- 16. (new) The composition according to claim 1, characterized in that: an amount of the phosphorus compound is 3 to 15% by weight.
- 17. (new) The composition according to claim 1, characterized in that: an amount of the silica compound is 15 to 30% by weight.